

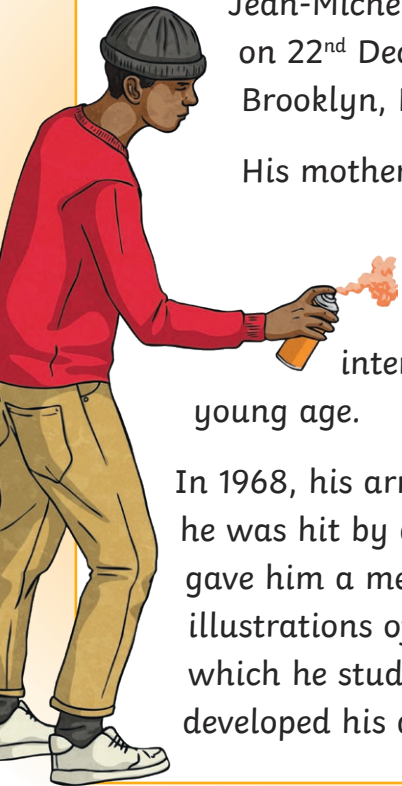
Jean-Michel Basquiat

(1960 - 1988)



Jean-Michel Basquiat was an American artist who became successful in the 1980s.

Early Life



Jean-Michel Basquiat was born on 22nd December 1960 in Brooklyn, New York.

His mother, Matilde, often took him to art galleries and encouraged him to take a keen interest in art from a young age.

In 1968, his arm was broken when he was hit by a car. His mother gave him a medical book, full of illustrations of the human body, which he studied carefully as he developed his drawing skills.

Legacy

While Jean-Michel's career was short, other artists such as Keith Haring have spoken about how he "truly created a lifetime of works in ten years." His paintings still remain popular, with one of his paintings - 'In This Case' - selling for \$93.1 million in 2021.

Career

- He and his friend, Al Diaz, painted graffiti art under the name 'SAMO'. Their work featured in a magazine in 1978 but they had fallen out by 1980.
- After this, he began creating more canvas art and his work was featured in exhibitions across the world, including Los Angeles, Germany and Switzerland.
- His art grew in popularity and he was soon earning over one million dollars per year.

Creative Connections

- Jean-Michel frequently collaborated with and became friends with famous pop artist, Andy Warhol.
- He also dated the singer, Madonna.
- He sold his first painting to Debbie Harry, lead singer from the famous band Blondie.

